



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

complicated, if not in its origin, at least in its progress, and almost always at the fatal termination, with local affections, and partial plethoras, generally of an inflammatory nature, which, at the close, produce abscesses in some of the vital organs. These local tendencies to increased action, are particularly noticeable in Typhus fever; and in those or more general, and violent reaction, the powers of life seem depressed at the close in *proportion* to their greater excitement at the beginning, so that the means of bringing down the strength of the re-action at first, viz by evacuations, particularly of timely blood-letting, will become the means of husbanding the vital power for the future and more formidable stages. It is only in their progress, and later periods that fevers acquire their contagious malignity, and a proper plan of depletion *early* resorted to, will prevent the production of a mass of contagion.

In other acute complaints, such as in the hydrocephalic fever, when early blood-letting is of such effectual service, it is much to be lamented that a more dexterous use of the lancet is not taught, and more frequently practised on children.\* There is indeed a general timidity with respect to this mode of depletion, which spreads from the patient, and attendants to the operator, and which in general makes the operation itself imperfect and bungling. The faintishness of fear, or any accidental stoppage in the flow of blood is used as a pretence for suspending or deferring the evacuation, where the powers of life are often oppressed and suffocated from the want of it. It appears certain that inflammatory diseases, or local tendencies to increased action, have become much more frequent from causes not hard to assign, but which are, in a great degree, referable to the habitual use of stimulants in diet, drink, and *abuse of that class* of medicines, which forms the fashion, or the curse of the day, while the dram of the shop merely supercedes the dram of the cellar.

## AGRICULTURAL REPORT,

*From 20th October, till 20th September, 1810.*

THE weather has been unusually fine for the last four weeks. There has seldom occurred a season more favourable for the state of crops, which were generally late in consequence of the backward spring.

The grain in a general way has been got into the haggards in good order, yet in several parts of the country there is still a good deal of corn in the fields, and even some to cut down, which must be injured by the wet windy weather that has lately set in unless a favourable change happens.

From the present prices of grain, it does not appear that the Act for allowing the public stills to work is likely to be attended with that rise on the provisions, that was some time ago predicted by the opposers of that measure; and if the reduction on the duty on spirits has the effect to stop, or even lessen private distillation, the farmers may obtain a fair price for their grain, the revenue of the country may be so far increased as to render it less necessary to lay on additional taxes, as was the case this year, and the poorer classes of the people may not suffer by an exorbitant price of provisions.

The potatoe crops have been much improved by the long continuance of fine weather this autumn, and now promise an abundant supply of that necessary and nutritious root.

## COMMERCIAL REPORT.

THE bankruptcies which have lately so distressed the commercial world, and the inconveniences which although not yet terminating in bankruptcy, may end in that

---

\* That very useful instrument, a scarificator, (when properly constructed), has received much improvement by the invention of Surgeon Shute, and is for sale at Mr. Winters, cutler, Bridge-street, London.

way, are the natural consequences of the too great issues of paper money, and the unbounded rage for speculation, and of these evils still more highly stimulated by the vicissitudes and uncertainties of the present system of commercial warfare. The effects naturally followed, as might be expected from these causes. Trade is never more prosperous, nor merchants never succeed better, than when by slow, but sure gains, the equable course of commerce is permitted to flow gently forward. But grand enterprise was the general order of the day; every one wished to be great: consequently much was hazarded, and a few in the beginning succeeded to prize, while the wheel was rich, but latterly blanks have turned up. Trade formerly was more agreeable and safe, and perhaps in the end more productive, when importing merchants sold to the direct users of the article without the intervention of buying from each other on speculation, and making what are termed lucky hits. This system of jobbing unnecessarily raised the price of the article. We have seen a mighty speculation in linens end without gain to the speculators, but producing most injurious effects to the country, by the state into which for the last two years the linen trade has been thrown by the high prices to which linens were raised; for this rise was in a very considerable degree owing to the injudicious and unwarrantable speculations which were set afloat in the last three months of 1808. For a time nothing escaped commercial avidity. Even the purchase of land, and an extensive demesne became the object of speculation. But what has been the issue of all this bustle? Disappointment of the highly raised hopes, and of fancied superior cleverness in managing the affairs of trade, bankruptcies, distresses to find means to support over trading, losses on most articles of importation and exportation have succeeded. Such has been the uncertain state of trade during the last two years, that perhaps few have added to their capital within that period.

The worst has not been seen yet. The report of the bullion committee has thrown a strong light on the dangerous state of our paper currency, and shown beyond the power of sophistry to dispute, that money has been depreciated from 15 to 20 per cent, and consequently every article raised nearly one fifth in price. Immediately before the act of 1797 to excuse the national banks from paying their notes in specie took place, bank stock was 137 per cent: it is now about 252 per cent, and had been higher: the 3 per cents were at 52, and they immediately rose to 63. The monied interest were pleased, and without looking deeply into the probable final result, were enamoured by the plausibilities of Pitt, to attribute this rise to *his durable system of finance*, and fell into his schemes to lend money freely to aid his plans of destructive warfare. The illusion is now dissipated, and one of the chiefs of the monied interest in England has been terrified into an act of suicide by the dismal prospects of the times.

Previous to the restriction act, discounts at the bank of England, were difficult to be procured. The following is asserted to be a just calculation of their

SCALE OF DISCOUNTS.	
1797	241
1798	200
1799	251
1810	688

From this table we may perceive how rapidly discounts advanced, when the bank expected they were permanently relieved from paying their engagements in specie — The bullion committee have on the principle of justice recommended that at the end of two years, the national banks should be compelled to pay their notes under 5*l.* in coin. But if possible this regulation will be evaded by the bank, and by government. The present administration are avowedly hostile to it, and we have no grounds to expect better from the opposite party, who are struggling for their places. It cannot suit the views of any party desirous to promote war on the present scale of expense.

A return to specie can only be effected by such a curtailment of the issue of paper, as would raise money 15 or 20 per cent, the amount of the present depreciation, so as to allow government to purchase gold bullion on such terms, as would enable them to issue a fresh coinage of guineas. The price of bullion is a criterion to try the value of the circulating medium. When specie has generally disappeared from circulation, if gold in bullion exceeds the nominal value of gold in coin, the medium used for purchasing is necessarily proved to be depreciated. The effect of curtailment must necessarily render money so scarce, in the effort to produce equalization, that government will find it difficult, perhaps impossible, to get their loans. Such an abridgement of discounts must also take place, as will be severely felt by persons in trade, and produce much temporary inconvenience, when from the scarcity of money, and the difficulty of procuring discounts, every man will be compelled nearly to depend

only on his own capital. A scarcity of money bearing hard on our war system of profuse public expenditure, must ultimately tend to good by fixing limits to it; and the temporary inconveniences to trade, may be expected to be amply compensated by the increased security for the future. But it is improbable that parliament will speedily adopt the measure of enforcing cash payments, when so many plausible objections addressed to present supposed interests can be advanced against the measure. But unless some renovation of our fragile system of paper credit is speedily adopted, it is possible that the people actuated by an increased panic as to its solidity, and by their fears aggravated by succeeding political events, at no very distant period, may refuse to give confidence to paper any longer, and the history of America and France demonstrates, that when public confidence is lost, which alone gives stability to paper no influence or power of government can uphold it, or give currency to it. Such a crisis may be dreaded, but in the midst of much suffering which such a state would produce, a gleam of hope arises that good effects might be expected, and if there should be less wealth, more true happiness might be the result.

Little business is doing in the commercial world, speculation is nearly at an end, and credit is low. Of course few but the real consumers appear in the market. Much of the pernicious activity which formerly prevailed, and gave a deceptive appearance of prosperity is now withdrawn, and trade is reduced more within its legitimate and proper bounds. A change which may be contemplated for the better, as the bustle of speculation was one fruitful source of the deception respecting our real trade, which tended to mislead as to our situation.

In addition to the low state of the cotton trade, from the want of demand, combination among the workmen is adding to the difficulties. The weavers lately combined, and forced some who had taken work contrary to their regulations to return it to their employers, who gladly embraced the opportunity thus presented to them, to discontinue giving out more work: a measure which the crowded state of their ware rooms rendered expedient, and which this injudicious combination gave a good pretext to accomplish—Now the cotton spinners have formed an association ostensibly for the purpose of affording relief to distressed members, but it is asserted really for the purpose of supporting combination.

The last linen market in Dublin, was extremely dull. There was no demand for America, nor did any buyers from London attend. The demand in the London market has not improved. Brown lineus have fallen, and a further reduction may be expected, when a plentiful supply comes to market, unless the purchasers should also be numerous. The crops of flax are very abundant, and now that rain affords water to permit it to be dressed at the mills, flax may be expected to be on very low terms; thus a hope is held up that this manufacture may once more return to its former channels, from which it was displaced by the orders in council of blundering statesmen, the schemes of speculators, the timidity and timeserving of the majority at Annagh, and the dangerous officiousness of public boards. Much loss has been sustained in this trade during the last two years: but contrary to expectation this loss has mostly fallen on the drapers. The manufacturers obtained good prices; brown lineus sold high, while the demand for them in the white state was so very flat.

Exchange on London is in Belfast about 9 per cent, and discount on bank notes 2½ per cent.

#### NATURALIST'S REPORT, *From September 20, till October 20.*

Now let the learned gardener mark with care,  
The kinds of stocks, and what those kinds will bear,  
Explore the nature of each several tree;  
And known, improve with artful industry,  
And let no spot of idle earth be found,  
But cultivate the genius of the ground. VIRGIN.

IN marking the progress of vegetation during the last summer, we perceived that owing to the cold dry weather in the spring, it was considerably retarded, and many plants did not make their usual shoots until the season was far advanced, and owing to the uncommon moisture of the summer, even the remarkably fine, and uncommonly warm weather which has prevailed since the beginning of September, will not in all probability ripen the wood, and bring the buds to that maturity which will enable them to resist a cold winter without more than usual injury. If therefore frost sets in early next month, it will be prudent to protect tender exotics, with more than usual care, for the foregoing reasons; neither planting